

Patent Application of

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for

TITLE: Segmented Distribution Headlight System, Method, and Apparatus

BACKGROUND FIELD OF INVENTION

Over the past one hundred years, electric lighting has been implemented using many well know techniques to provide illumination in many applications. Well known electrical illumination techniques include incandescent, gas, and LED to name a few. In more recent decades, the prior art has incorporated sensors to control the on or off condition of a light source to provide illumination only when desired and to discontinue (or alternately dim) illumination when desired. Specifically, implementation of variable distribution vehicle headlights has been described in the prior art wherein a first vehicle includes a means to sense the presence or intensity of oncoming vehicle headlights of a second vehicle so as to automate the process of switching headlights of the first vehicle between a state of high beam and low beam.

The present invention provides a significant advancement in variable distribution headlights by providing a means to automatically dim some portions of the headlight distribution pattern while concurrently keeping other portions of the headlight distribution pattern illuminated on high beam. The result is an automated headlight system which enables the driver of a vehicle so equipped to see optimally while concurrently the driver of an oncoming (or alternately a leading) vehicle also can see optimally.

BACKGROUND-DESCRIPTION OF PRIOR INVENTION

The prior art describes headlight illumination systems which automatically switch headlights between a high beam state and a low beam state. Said systems incorporating a first element to sense the presence of oncoming vehicles and a second element to send a corresponding signal to vary the intensity of headlights connected thereto and a third element for illumination (headlights which are varied according to sensed conditions). As an alternate to varying light intensity, the prior art teaches, providing a means to redirect headlights from a higher direction to a lower direction (and vice versa)